



Howard Schlieper, audio systems engineer in MSSD's Communication Department, assists MSSD students Alycia Brown (center) and Krissi Taylor with vibrotactile shaker jackets.

## Technology interprets feel of sound

Listening to concerts, dancing, and viewing movies can be more enjoyable for deaf and hard of hearing people, thanks to new technology that can help them feel what they cannot hear.

On Sept. 7, the Model Secondary School for the Deaf hosted an open house demonstration in its Sights, Sounds, and Vibes Lab of new vibrotactile technology products loaned to the school by their marketer, the InterGroup Corporation.

InterGroup, which is based in Los Angeles, Calif., was originally a military technology company, but when the national defense budget was cut, the company switched to developing entertainment technology.

Curious faculty, staff, and students tested a prototype vibrotactile dance floor, vibrating theater seats, and Aura Interactor vibrotactile shaker jackets, all of which convert high and low sound frequencies to vibrations of corresponding rhythm and intensity, according to Gregory McPherson, InterGroup's executive vice president.

Several teenagers stood on the dance floor passing the shaker jacket around, the room humming with music. "Neat!" exclaimed MSSD student Krissi Taylor, "You can feel the music!"

Although the shaker jacket was originally designed to be used with Super Nintendo and Sega Genesis video game systems, it can also be connected to many home audio systems, said Howard Schlieper, audio systems engineer in MSSD's Communication Department.

Soon, other MSSD students will have an opportunity to feel the music. Because the lab is used to teach students about the physics of sound, InterGroup's technology will allow them to experience sound, benefiting not only their learning, but adding to their enjoyment, said Schlieper.

Schlieper is soliciting feedback from deaf people who tried out the devices (the theater seats were tested by a group of deaf and hard of hearing people at a recent Barbra Streisand concert) and will pass their comments on to InterGroup.

InterGroup's theater seats and vibrating floors may appear elsewhere on campus in the future. Dr. Patti Singleton, acting dean of the College for Continuing Education, tested the dance floor, theater seats, and shaker jacket at the open house, and she is interested in the possibility of installing the products in the new Gallaudet University Conference Center.

Aura Interactor shaker jackets are available at retail stores at a suggested price of \$90. According to information on the packing box, the jackets work with personal computers, compact discs, stereos, televisions, VCRs, and video game systems. The manufacturer claims that the user can feel punches, explosions, kicks, upercuts, slam dunks, crashes, bodyblows, and more.

## Gallaudet receives generous bequest

A new door to scholarship and research has opened for Gallaudet's permanent and visiting professors, thanks to William H. and Ruth Crane Schaefer. The income from the \$400,000 fund established in their names—the William H. and Ruth Crane Schaefer Professorship Endowment Fund—will be awarded annually to a distinguished scholar who is visiting the University or to a permanent professor here.

According to the University's Office of Public Relations, the Schaefer's bequest is one of the most generous

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## Displacement policy draft reviewed

The highlight and almost all-consuming task of a special meeting of the University Faculty Senate Sept. 7 was reviewing a draft plan for the treatment of tenured, nontenured, and temporary faculty who may be displaced when recommendations of the Vision Implementation Plan (VIP) take effect.

According to Committee A (Faculty Welfare) Chair Ed Krest, who co-authored the draft with English Professor Marcia Bordman, the plan is modeled after a policy used at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf when it instituted a similar program some years ago.

"This is still a negotiating, ongoing process," Krest, an associate professor of mathematics and computer science, told the senate. "This is not the final draft. We bring it here for your review and consideration."

Krest and Dr. Bordman produced the "working draft of a faculty displacement policy," as a sub-group of Committee A at the request of University

President I. King Joran and Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen. Krest and Bordman then reviewed their draft with Faculty Senate Chair Bill Marshall and Dr. Rosen and presented it to the University Faculty Senate.

Marshall commended Bordman and Krest for their work under tight time constraints. He also stressed that the faculty will have time to review subsequent drafts of the policy carefully—they won't be expected to read it and vote on it in one day.

The draft plan will be on the Faculty Senate agenda again for its special meeting Sept. 26 and the special University Faculty meeting Oct. 10.

Special Assistants to the President Jack Gannon (Advocacy) and Bette Martin (Institutional Affairs) also spoke briefly at the meeting, encouraging all faculty to give them their feedback on the Sept. 1 memo about drafting a communication statement by Sept. 27.

## Project tackles 'dual language problem'

Gallaudet is a bilingual community, but not every member is comfortable with both its languages. A new ASL-English Mentoring project is being set up to address this dilemma. A 10-week pilot session began Sept. 19.

"We have a dual language problem here in literacy," said Anne Marie Baer, coordinator of the Deaf Alliance for Computers and Writing and the ASL-English Mentoring Pilot Project. "Many people feel negative about their second language. It's a struggle. If they try to learn in a formal situation, it seems not to work."

Baer believes informal conversation works better. In fact, the idea for the mentoring project sprang from Baer's own informal conversations in ASL and in English with Dr. Trent Batson, director

of the Electronic Networks for Interaction (ENFI) lab, over the past year-and-a-half.

Ten hearing faculty members who are fluent in English and have intermediate skills in ASL are being paired with 10 deaf students who are fluent in ASL and have intermediate skills in English. The pairs will meet informally twice a week for one hour of conversation in ASL and one hour of conversation in English, via a computer network or other system in the ENFI lab.

The project is sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, the New Faculty Orientation Program, the University Center, and the Deaf Alliance for Computers and

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Anne Marie Baer, coordinator of the Deaf Alliance for Computers and Writing and the ASL-English Mentoring Pilot Project, helps Dr. Trent Batson, director of the ENFI laboratory, improve his ASL skills in exchange for helping her improve her English skills.



# Announcements

The annual T.J. Landers Lectureship in Special Education Administration, sponsored by the Department of Administration and Supervision, School of Education and Human Services, will be held Oct. 26, 3:54-5:54 p.m., in Ely Auditorium. This year's topic is "Dilemmas, Demands, Decisions in the Placement of Deaf Students." Members of the audience are encouraged to bring questions on 3 X 5-inch cards.

"Our Move to Digital," a Sept. 26 teleconference providing an update on how PBS plans to change from analog to digital satellite programming transmission, will be downlinked and closed captioned to "Ole Jim." The 4-5 p.m. program is free and is targeted at professionals in the field and students planning related careers. Topics will include the impact the conversion will have on the University's ability to acquire satellite programming, costs and benefits, timelines, and suggestions for ordering equipment. On-air demonstrations and information on available data and multimedia services will also be covered. The program will be preceded by remarks from Dr. Judy Harkins, director of Gallaudet's Technology Assessment Program. For more information, call Toby Silver, coordinator of distance education, Continuing Education and Outreach, x5733, or E-mail TRSILVER.

"Inclusion?—Defining Quality Education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students," the fourth annual conference addressing issues of importance to the deaf community, will be held Oct. 26-28 during the University's Homecoming Week at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert St. NW, Washington, D.C. The event is co-sponsored by Gallaudet's College for Continuing Education and Outreach and Pre-College Programs. The deadline to pre-register is Oct. 14. To register or for information, call x5733.

Fall classes for the Gallaudet Workout, a series of noontime fitness ac-

tivities sponsored by the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, started Sept. 19 and will continue until Dec. 16. Step aerobics will be offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and "Slide N' Tone" will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays. All classes will be held in the Hughes Gym Dance Studio. The cost is \$65, which gives unlimited access to all classes, or \$5 for each individual class. Ongoing registration takes place in the Field House, Room 101. For more information, call Stacey Oliff, x5591.

The Maryland Renaissance Festival, Crownsville, Md., will hold its Deaf Awareness Weekend Oct. 8-9. Several stage shows will be interpreted, and the MSSD Road Show will perform Oct. 9 at 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Admission is \$11.95 or \$8.50 for groups of 20 or more. For more information, call (410) 573-1509 (TTY).

Teatro de La Luna, Arlington, Va., will present a sign interpreted performance of "El Jaguar Azul" at the Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St., on Oct. 8 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$12. For more information, call (703) 358-4743 (TTY) or (703) 548-3092 (V).

## Mentors work on communication

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Writing, which was established along with the national Alliance for Computers and Writing (ACW) in 1993. The ACW provides advocacy and support for teachers at all levels of education, from kindergarten through college, who use technology to teach writing and literacy.

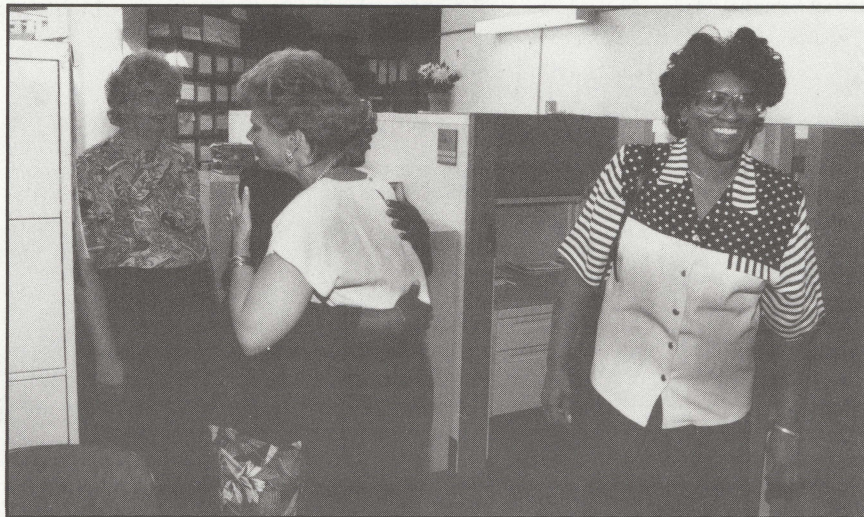
The goal of the mentoring program is not only for participants to increase fluency in their secondary language but also to develop mentoring skills in a bilingual and multicultural environment and to develop more confidence in their second language. The mentoring program is also meant to foster good learning relationships between faculty and students.

Although many faculty want to practice ASL with students, they have limited opportunities to do so because of work and home commitments, Baer said. The mentorship program permits them to practice their ASL skills during work hours.

Criteria for participation—though they are more of a guideline than a set of requirements, Baer said—include being a student or faculty member, demonstration of intermediate skill in ASL or English and fluency in the other, a regular schedule with the same times available for mentoring each week, and interest and motivation in committing to two hours a week for 10 weeks. Students must also have a grade point average of 2.7 or better and take no more than 17 credits with only a few extracurricular activities.

The pilot this fall will be evaluated by an outside person yet to be determined, Baer said. The program may then be expanded to include staff as well as faculty and may also expand to benefit students who have weak ASL skills.

For more information on the mentoring project, contact Baer by E-mail at ABAER, or call x5454.



Co-workers bid farewell to volunteer coordinator and former Gallaudet Workout instructor Cindi Olson (front, center) Sept. 9 as she ends 19 years at Gallaudet to start her own business.

## New fund benefits scholarship, research

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Gallaudet has ever received. The gift also includes a collection of valuable Civil War books and artifacts left to the Gallaudet University Archives.

"I am very excited about the immense possibilities this professorship will bring," said Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen, who will oversee the selection of the annual recipient of the award. "It will enable faculty recipients, both within and outside of the University, to venture into the domains of scholarship and research as related to our mission and vision at Gallaudet."

There is no word yet on when the first professorship will be awarded.

William Schaefer, who died last year at the age of 100, was one of the youngest majors in World War I and a battalion commander in that war. After the war, he worked for 45 years for

the Packard Motor Company, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, and Houdaille Industries.

Ruth Schaefer, who died in 1989, was a prominent Washington, D.C., radio personality on WMAL-AM during the 1940s and 50s.

William Schaefer first learned of Gallaudet in 1908 when his high school football team played against the Michigan School for the Deaf, but he developed closer ties to the University in the 1980s when he experienced a gradual hearing loss. He met Gallaudet President I. King Jordan when the Deaf President Now protest took place, and the two men and their spouses became friends.

"Mr. Schaefer was a very interesting and generous person who loved Gallaudet," said Dr. Jordan. "This is an extraordinary gift from Mr. Schaefer and his late wife, who truly believed in the benefits of higher education."

## Classified Ads

**Classified ads** are printed for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Written ads must be submitted in person or by mail to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TTY. In compliance with the Education of the Deaf Act of 1992, as amended, payment of \$1 per ad per printing must accompany each ad. The deadline for submitting ads is Friday, 10 days before the desired publication. Ads received Sept. 19-Sept. 23 will be printed Oct. 3.

**FOR RENT:** 3-BR, 2-BA lakefront home in Northern Neck, Va., \$600/mo. plus security deposit. Call Bobbi, x5060.

**FOR RENT:** Furnished room in house, \$300/mo. plus 1/2 util. Call John Scott, (202) 208-1207 days or (202) 832-4990 eves.

**FOR RENT:** 1 and 2-BR apts. and 1-BR accessible apts. in Washington, D.C., W/D, near Metro bus/shopping, rent incl. util. plus AC. For more information, call Deaf REACH housing specialist (202) 832-6681 (V/TTY) or Southview Apts., (202) 889-6660.

**FOR RENT:** 1 BR in Silver Spring, Md., to student, BA, shared kitchen, \$375/mo. incl. util. Call x5315 or (301) 431-4131 (V) or E-mail TBHANSON.

**FOR RENT:** 1 BR in Alexandria, Va., to nonsmoker, grad. student or professional preferred, must love dogs, have own trans., avail. immediately, \$350/mo. plus 1/2 util. Call Jane, (703) 768-3818 or E-mail JNORMAN.

**FOR RENT:** Apt. in walking distance to Kendall Green, 633 Orleans Place, upstairs unit, separate entrance, secure, new paint and carpeting, owner willing to accommodate deaf tenant. Call Ms. Gaither, (301) 774-9719 (V) and leave detailed message.

**FOR RENT:** 2-BR apt. less than 1 block from Kendall Green. Call (301) 773-1710 (V/TTY) or (301) 322-7372 (V).

**FOR RENT:** House in Chevy Chase, Md., near Metro, 3 acres, garage, 5 BRs, basement, greenhouse room, W/D, fireplace, porch and deck, \$1,295/mo. Call (301) 937-8660.

**FOR RENT:** 1-BR corner basement apt. in Capitol Hill townhouse, W/D, A/C, walk-in closet, storage, separate entrance, \$475/mo. plus util. Call (202) 233-7766 (V) days or (202) 543-8070 (V) eves.

**FOR SALE:** 1-BR condo w/pantry, walk-in closet, W/D, scenic, safe, near Grosvenor and White Flint Metros, \$66,000. Call Vivian, (301) 770-1562 (V) eves.

**FOR SALE:** 1-BR condo in New Carrollton, Md., near Metro, shopping, library, \$46,500. Call (301) 577-8974 (TTY).

**FOR SALE:** 2 almost new steel belted P155/80R13 radial tires w/rims and jack kit, \$50. E-mail MMMORALES or call Margie (301) 236-9635 (TTY) after 6 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** '91 VW Golf hatchback, good cond., blue, 44,400 mi., AC, stick shift, \$5,900/BO. E-mail JLCROFT or call (301) 434-2390 (TTY).

**WANTED:** Deaf babysitter fluent in ASL for hearing family (children ages 9 and 3) in Hyattsville, Md., for several hrs./day; flexible, but prefer services in exchange for room, board; 20 min. from Kendall Green. Call Jackie Laldee, (301) 386-4769 (V/TTY).

**WANTED:** Fingertalk tutor to practice receptive skills, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Tues., Thurs., on campus, fee nego. Call E. Walsh, (703) 257-1662 (V).

**WANTED:** 3-BR apt. in NW D.C., Takoma Park, Md., or Silver Spring, Md., near bus/Metro, need immediately. Call Linda Lee, (202) 232-4431 (V).

**WANTED:** ASL tutor for motivated hearing adult. Call Lori Milstein (202) 537-6312 (V) days or (202) 337-0855 (V) eves.

**FREE:** Dalmation puppy, male, deaf, 10 weeks old, liver and white, has had all shots. Call (703) 825-4289 or (703) 937-5186.



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